

The Middletown Transcript.

VOL. XXXI.—NO 16

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1898.

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The Indifference of The Miller of Hofban.

By ANTHONY HOPE.

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There is a little river running by the village of Hofban, and on the river is a mill, kept in the days of King Rudolf III by a sturdy fellow who lived there all alone. The king knew him, having alighted at his house for a draft of beer as he rode hunting, and it was of him the king spoke when he said to the queen, "There is, I believe, but one man in the country whom Osa could not move, and that is the miller of Hofban." But, though he addressed the queen, it was his sister at whom he aimed the speech. The princess herself was sitting by, and when she heard the king she said:

"In truth, I do not desire to move any man. What troubles come of it? Yet who is this miller?"
The king told her where the miller might be found, and he added, "If you convert him to the love of women, you shall have the finest bracelet in Stralsund."

"There is nothing, sir, so remote from my thoughts or desires as to convert your miller," said Osa scornfully. And in this at the moment she spoke truthfully, but being left alone for some days at the castle of Zenda, which is but a few miles from Hofban, she found time to think of the king's words. Indeed, she did not know what to do with herself for weariness, and so for this reason and none other at all one day she ordered her horse and rode off with a single groom into the forest.

Coming as the morning went to a wide road, she asked the groom where it led. "To Hofban, madame," he answered. "It is not more than a mile farther on."
Osa waited for a few moments. Then she said: "I will ride on and see the village, for I have been told that it is pretty. Wait here till I return." And she rode on, smiling a little and with a delicate tint of color in her cheeks.

Before long she saw the river and the mill on the river, and coming to the mill, she saw the miller sitting before his door, smoking a long pipe, and she called out to him, asking him to sell her a glass of milk.
"You can have it for the asking," said the miller. He was a good looking, fair fellow and wore a scarlet cap. "There is a pail of it just inside the door behind me." Yet he did not rise, but lay there, lolling luxuriously in the sun. For he did not know Osa, never having been in his life and he went to Zenda three or four times only, and that when the princess was not there. Moreover—though this, as must be allowed, is not to the purpose—he had sworn never again to go so far afield.

Being answered in this manner and at the same time desiring the milk, the princess had no choice but to dismount. This she did and passed by the miller, pausing a moment to look at him with bright, curious eyes that flashed from under the rim of her wide rimmed feathered hat, but the miller looked lazily up at the sun and took no heed of her.

Osa passed on, found the pail, poured the milk, and drank it. Then, reddening the cup, she carried it to the miller.
"Will you not have some?" said she, with a smile.
"I was too lazy to get it," said the miller, and he held out his hand, but did not otherwise change his position.

Osa's brow was puckered and her cheek flushed as she knelt down, holding the cup of milk so that the miller could reach it. He took and drained it, gave it back to her and put his pipe in his mouth again. Osa sat down by him and watched him. He puffed and blinked away, never so much as looking at her.

"What have you for dinner?" asked she presently.
"A piece of cold pie," said he. "There's enough for two if you're hungry."
"Would you not like it better hot?" said Osa.
"Oh, yes, but I cannot weary myself with heating it."
"I will heat it," said the princess, and, rising, she went into the house and

Pausing a moment to look at him with bright, curious eyes.
made up the fire, which was almost burnt out. Then she heated the pie and set the room in order and laid the table and drew a large jug of beer from the cask. Next she placed an armchair ready for the miller and put the jug by it; then she filled a pipe from the bowl of tobacco and set a cushion in the chair. And all this while she hummed a tune and from time to time smiled gayly. Lastly she arranged a chair by the elbow of the miller's chair. Then she went out and told him that his dinner was ready, and he stumbled to his feet with a sigh of laziness and walked before her into the house.
"May I come?" cried she.
"Aye, there is enough for two," said the miller of Hofban, without looking round.
So she followed him in. He sank into the armchair and sat there for a moment, surveying the room, which was so neat, and the table so daintily laid and the pie so steaming hot, and he sighed, saying:

"It was like this before poor mother died." And he fell to on a great portion of pie with which Osa piled his plate.
When he had finished eating—which thing did not happen for some time—

she held the jug while he took a long draft; then she brought a coal in the tongs and held it while he lit his pipe from it; then she sat down by him. For several moments he puffed, and then at last he turned his head and looked at Princess Osa, and she dropped her long lashes and cast down her eyes, and next she lifted her eyes and glanced for an instant at the miller, and finally she dropped her eyes again and murmured shyly: "What is it, sir? Why do you look at me?"

"You seem to be a handy wench," observed the miller. "The pie was steaming hot and yet you burnt the beer was well frothed, but not shaken nor thickened, and the pipe draws well. Where does your father dwell?"
"He is dead, sir," said the Princess Osa very demurely.
"And your mother?" pursued the miller.
"She also is dead."

"There is small harm in that," said the miller thoughtfully, and Osa turned away her head to hide her smile.
"Are you not very lonely, living here by yourself?" she asked a moment later.
"Indeed I have to do everything for myself," said the miller sadly.
"And there is nobody to—to care for you?"

"No, nor to look after my comfort," said the miller. "Have you any kindred?"
"I have two brothers, sir, but they are married now and have no need of me."
The miller laid down his pipe, and setting his elbow on the table, faced Princess Osa.
"H'm," said he. "And is it likely you will ride this way again?"

"I may chance to do so," said Osa, and now there was a gleam of mischief triumph in her eyes, and she was thinking already how the bracelet would look on her arm.
"Ah," said the miller, and after a pause he added: "If you do, come half an hour before dinner, and you'll find a hand in making it ready. Where did you get those fine clothes?"

"My mistress gave them to me," answered Osa. "She has cast them off."
"And that horse you rode?"
"It is my mistress's." I have it to ride when I do my mistress's errands."
"And will your master and mistress do anything for you if you leave your service?"
"I have been promised a present if"—said Osa, and she paused in apparent confusion.

"Aye," said the miller, nodding sagaciously, and he rose slowly from the armchair. "Will you be this way again in a week or so?" he asked.
"I think it is very likely," answered Princess Osa.
"Then look in," said the miller, "about half an hour before dinner." And he nodded his head again very significantly at Osa and, turning away, went to his work as a man goes who would rather sit still in the sun. But just as he reached the door he turned his head and asked, "Are you sturdy?"
"I am strong enough, I think," said she.

"A sack of flour is a heavy thing for a man to lift by himself," said the miller, and with that he passed through the door and left her alone. Then she cleared the table, put the pie, or what little was left, in the larder, set the room in order, refilled the pipe, stood the jug handy by the cask and with a look of great satisfaction on her face tripped out to where her horse was, mounted and rode away.

The next week and the interval had passed long to her and no less long to the miller of Hofban—she came again, and so the week after, and in the week following that she came twice, and on the second of these two days, after dinner, the miller did not go off to his sack, but he followed her out of the house, pipe in hand, when she went to mount her horse, and as she was about to mount he said:

"Indeed you are a handy wench."
"You say much of my hands, but nothing of my face," remarked Princess Osa.
"Of your face?" repeated the miller in some surprise. "What should I say of your face?"
"Well, is it not a comely face?" the miller, turning toward him that he might be better able to answer her question.

The miller regarded her for some moments; then a slow smile spread on his lips.
"Oh, aye, it is well enough!" said he. "You laid a good deal of stress on your arm, and he continued: "If you come next week—why, it is but half a mile to church. I'll have the cart ready and bid the priest be there. What is your name?" For he had not hitherto asked Osa's name.

"Rosa Schwartz," said she, and her face was all alight with triumph and amusement.
"Yes, I shall be very comfortable with you," said the miller. "We will be at the church an hour before noon, so that there may be time afterward for the preparation of dinner."
"That will be on Thursday of next week?" asked Osa.
"Aye, on Thursday," said the miller, and he turned on his heel. But in a minute he turned again, saying, "Give me a kiss, then, since we are to be man and wife," and he came slowly toward her, holding his arms open.

"Nay, the kiss will wait till Thursday. Maybe there will be less flour on your face then." And with a laugh she dived under his outstretched arms and made her escape. The day being warm, the miller did not put himself off by pursuing her, but stood where he was, with a broad, comfortable smile on his lips, and so he watched her ride away.
Now, as she rode the princess was much occupied in thinking of the miller of Hofban. Elated and triumphant as she was at having won from him a promise of marriage, she was yet somewhat vexed that he had not shown a more passionate affection, and this thought clouded her brow for full half an hour. But then her face cleared, and "Still waters run deep," said she to herself. "He is not like those court gallants who have learned to make love as soon as they learn to walk and cannot talk to a woman without bowing and grinning and sighing at every word. The miller has a deep nature, and surely I have won his heart, or he would not take me for his wife. Poor miller! I pray that he may not grieve very bitterly when I make the truth known to him." And then, at the thought of the grief of the miller, her face was again clouded, but it again cleared when she considered of the great triumph that she had won, and how she would enjoy

a victory over the king and would have the finest bracelet in all Stralsund as a gift from him. Thus she arrived at the castle in the height of merriment and exultation.

It chanced that the king also came to Zenda that night to spend a week hunting the bear in the forest, and when Osa, all blushing and laughing, told him of her success with the miller of Hofban he was greatly amused and swore that no such girl ever lived and applauded her, renewing his promise of the bracelet, and he declared that he would himself ride with her to Hofban on the wedding day and see how the poor miller bore his disappointment.

"Indeed, I do not see how you are going to excuse yourself to him," he laughed.
"A purse of 500 crowns must do that office for me," said she.
"What will crows patch a broken heart?"
"His broken heart must heal itself, as men's broken hearts do, brother."

"In truth, sister, I have known them cure themselves. Let us hope it may be so with the miller of Hofban."
"At the worst I have revenged the wrongs of women on him. It is unendurable that any man should scorn us, be he king or miller."
"It is indeed very proper that he should suffer great pains," agreed the king, "in spite of his plaster of crowns. I shall love to see the stolid fellow sighing and moaning like a love sick courtier."

So they agreed to ride together to the miller's at Hofban on the day appointed for the wedding, and both of them waited with impatience for it. But with the bad luck that pursues mortals (even though they be princes) in this poor world it happened that early in the morning of the Thursday a great officer came, riding posthaste from Stralsund to take the king's commands on high matters of state, and although Rudolf was sorely put out of temper by this untoward interruption, yet he had no alternative but to transact the business before he rode to the miller's at Hofban. So he sat fretting and fuming while long papers were read to him, and the princess walked up and down the length of the drawbridge, fretting also, for before the hour of the wedding was already come, and doubtless the miller of Hofban was waiting with the priest in the church.

And lo! it was a clock or more before Osa and the king set out from Zenda, and they had then a ride of an hour and a half, and all this when Osa should have been at the miller's at 11 o'clock.
"Will be continued next week."

BOIL IT DOWN.
If you've got a thought that's happy,
Make it short and crisp and snappy.
Boil it down.
When your brain has been inspired,
Down the page your pen has printed,
If you want your effort printed,
Boil it down.
Take out every surplus letter—
Boil it down;
Fewer syllables the better—
Boil it down.
Make your meaning plain and express it
So we'll know, not merely guess it,
Then, my friend, ere you address it,
Boil it down.
Blot out all the extra trimmings—
Boil it down;
Skip it well, the skilful skinkings—
Boil it down.
When you're sure 'twould be a sin
To cut another sentence in,
Send it on, and we'll begin
Boil it down.

An Enterprising Druggist.
There are few men more wide awake and enterprising than Dr. H. Vaughan who no pains to secure the best of everything in their line for their many customers. They now have the agency for Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. This is the wonderful remedy that is producing such a furor all over the country by its many startling cures. It absolutely cures Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness and all affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs. Call at above drug store and get a trial bottle free or a regular size for 50 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed to cure or price refunded.

A half century of commerce is a good deal better index to the capacity of a country than a short riot of two or three years. The free-traders who are trotting out figures to show that our sales of American manufactures abroad increased under the Wilson law would do well to look over the history of the past half century before they go very far into these statements. If they do so they will find that in a quarter of century of low tariff the balance of trade was almost constantly against the United States, while in the quarter of a century of protective tariff the balance of trade was largely in our favor.

In the twenty-five years since 1872 there have been but five years in which our exports did not exceed our imports, while in the twenty-five years preceding that there were but two years in which the imports were not in excess of the exports. The excess of exports over imports in the last quarter of a century was about \$2,500,000,000, while the excess of imports over exports in the preceding quarter of a century of low tariff was about \$1,400,000,000.

For that tired feeling you must enrich and purify your blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine you need.

How to Look Good.
Good looks are really more than skin deep, depending entirely on a healthy condition of all the vital organs. If the liver is inactive, you have a bilious look; if your stomach is disordered, you have a dyspeptic look; if your kidneys are affected, you have a pinched look. Secure good health and you will surely have good looks. "Electric Bitters" is a good Alternative and Tonic. Acts directly on the stomach, liver and kidneys, purifies the blood, cures pimples, blotches and boils, and gives a good complexion. Every bottle guaranteed. Sold at Dr. H. Vaughan's Drug Store. 50 cents per bottle.

THE TRANSCRIPT, \$1.00 per year.

Washington ... Letter

TO CUBA
That is the order that will be issued the minute that Congress acts upon President McKinley's recommendation for armed intervention for the purpose of driving Spain out of Cuba, and there will be no delay on the part of Congress in adopting the resolution that will place the authority in the hands of the President to use the army and navy of the U. S. to force the Spanish out of Cuba. Proclaiming an armistice in Cuba was a trick worthy of Spain, but it failed to bring the delay at the Washington that Spain expected. Unless there is some unexpected delay, our warships will be demanding the evacuation of Cuba with shot and shell before the close of the present week. The Spanish will, of course, have a chance up to the last minute before the shooting begins to peacefully surrender Cuba, but there is now nothing in sight to indicate that they will get out until they are forced out.

In intervening in Cuba this government has no intention of making a war of conquest, but in the language of President McKinley is merely endeavoring to fulfill a duty to humanity by ending a situation the indefinite prolongation of which has become insupportable. Therefore whether the war will go further than is necessary to drive the Spanish out of Cuba will depend upon the Spanish themselves. While the official plan of operations is not known outside of those who are interested with the duty of carrying it out, it is understood that the initial naval demonstration of this government will be made against Cuba alone, and that no hostile movement against the Spanish colonies in the Philippine Islands, the Canary Islands, or Porto Rico will be made unless the opposition of the Spanish navy to our taking possession of Cuba shall make such steps necessary.

There is an impression among naval officers that if Spain does not make an abortive surrender before the fighting begins, it will throw up the sponge before we can get an opportunity to completely destroy its navy, and call on the European powers to arrange some sort of peace for her. It is thought that the distribution of the Spanish navy indicates that an attempt will be made by her fastest ships to attack some of our seacoast cities to avoid battle with us unless they catch some of our ships in positions where they can be overpowered and either sunk or captured. Naval officers will be surprised if Spain places any portion of her navy where it will come in contact with the powerful fleet that we will send to Cuba. Sixty days is outside the guest of our naval officers as to the length of the war.

Gen. Blanco did not improve the relations between Congress and Spain when he made a discourteous sneer of himself by refusing to see consul Gen. Lee when he called to say an official goodbye just previous to his departure from Havana. It is likely also that Gen. Lee may have some stories to tell when he reaches Washington that will likewise add to the existing enmity towards the Spaniards.

An informal agreement has been reached by the House Committee on Ways and Means, which has been considering the matter for several weeks, that the war revenue bill to be reported to the House as soon as hostilities begin shall include a provision increasing the internal revenue tax on beer from \$1 to \$2 a barrel, notwithstanding the argument of the representatives of the brewers who were granted hearings this last week. It is estimated that this increase in the beer tax will add \$35,000,000 a year to the government's revenues. Tobacco in its various manufactured forms, is relied upon to produce as much more; likewise a tax on several kinds of commercial paper. A bill has also been prepared by Chairman Dingley providing for the issue of bonds to the amount of \$100,000,000, as a temporary loan, and from three to five times that amount, as may be needed, as a permanent loan. These bonds will be payable in coin, just as all our outstanding bonds are, and to bear 3 per cent interest. Although offers of more than \$500,000,000 have been made to the government by large financial institutions, it is probable that any bonds issued will be offered to the public and allotted to those who first apply for them, at their face value.

Although couched in the most moderate language, President McKinley's reply to the joint note of the six great European nations, on our relations with Spain, will take its place in history alongside the Monroe doctrine. There was no word of bluster, but every European power understood its meaning perfectly—that the U. S. had determined Spanish rule in Cuba would cease forever, and that no European interference with its policy would be tolerated. The representatives of at least two European powers, France and Austria—and possibly those of a third—Italy—had hopes of arranging some sort of European joint intervention, but they abandoned them after hearing Mr. McKinley's reply to the joint note which was intended to be a friendly feeler.

Rome and Health.
In a residence of nearly a dozen years in the aggregate and extending over a period of nearly 20 I have never had in my family a single serious illness or a case of typhoid or malaria, and in my personal acquaintance I have never known half a dozen cases of infectious or malarial fever and not one of any gravity, while in a residence of five years in Florence we had eight cases of typhoid among seven persons.

I have repeatedly staid in Rome through the entire summer without any discomfort or inconvenience, and the late English ambassador, Lord Salisbury, was accustomed to spend his summers at the embassy, saying that he found no place so comfortable all the year round as Rome. I have never met with a case of the so-called "pernicious" fever, and the physicians whom I know and who attend foreigners mostly bear a like testimony.—"Old Rome and the New," by W. J. Stillman.

Real Entertainment.
Theaters are benefactors. They make the burden of life lighter.
"Yes, if somebody else pays for your reserved seat."—Detroit Free Press.

READ THE TRANSCRIPT.

A Curious Attempt at Suicide.

Quite an unexpectedly prosaic turn was given the city's news by the water to a suicide attempt that failed. The parties had agreed to bring the matter off at Havre and to make their mortuary comfortably at a hotel. He was already provided with a sword cane, but the scene to have expressed a preference for a revolver. They went out after what was to have been their last dinner and purchased the weapon, which in the privacy of their apartment he presently proceeded to misuse. He took, that is to say, a pot shot at her as she lay upon the sofa and grazed her dimpled chin. As she did not die he came a little closer and fired again. This time he grazed her damask cheek. Satisfied that all was over now, he shot himself in the month. No fatal result followed, and she not unnaturally made a remark, whereupon he proposed to begin all over again with the sword cane. But she had had enough, and very properly rang the bell and had them both taken to the hospital. In due course he came before the assize court and was also in due course acquitted. Then the unusual thing happened. She sued him civilly for damages, and the same jury gave her \$50 directly. Thus while they acquitted him of the murder they substantially mulcted him for failing to commit it.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Dean Stanley's Fearful Writing.
Dean Stanley, in his "Reminiscences," says that the first proof of Dean Stanley's "Sinai and Palestine" informed the reader that from the monastery of Sinai was visible "the horn of the burning bush." This was a fearfully apocalyptic nightmare of the printer's devil for "the horizon of the burning bush."

The original proof sheets also stated that on turning the shoulder of Mount Olivet in the walk from Bethany "There suddenly burst upon the spectator a magnificent view of—Jerusalem." In this startling sentence "Jerusalem" was a transposition of "Jerusalem," the abhorrent violation of writing "Jerusalem." When the dean answered an invitation to dinner, his hostess has been known to write back and inquire whether his note was an acceptance or a refusal, and when he most kindly replied to the question of some workman the reciprocal of his letter thanked him, but ventured to request that the tenor of the answer might be written out by some one else, "as he was not familiar with the handwriting of the aristocracy."

Real Meaning of the First Congress.
Stripped of all disguises and all temporary questions, this was what the congress meant—that the people of America did not propose to have Great Britain govern them, except as they pleased, and that they intended to control their own governments and govern themselves. Congress had taken the first step along this new road. They could still turn back. The English ministry had still time to yield. But the decision was made elsewhere, not in London or in Philadelphia, not among ministers or members of congress, but by certain plain men, with arms in their hands, far away to the north, whose action would set it beyond the power of congress to retract, even if they had desired to do so.—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge in Scribner's.

Here's a Compliment.
The trouble with the modern woman is that while her brain is educated up to end of the nineteenth century demands and standards her heart remains in the middle ages. It is regrettable that it was a million years ago.—New York Evening Sun.

A King's Courage.
King Pepin of France flourished about the year 750 A. D. and because of his diminutive size he had bestowed upon him the rather disrespectful appellation of "Pepin the Short." It would appear that he was not so short as he seemed, for he was so well proportioned as to make the monarch's deficiency in inches the subject of ill-ordered ridicule. This unbecoming conduct having become known to the king, his majesty resolved to put an end to such derision of his person by performing some feat which would prove once and for all that if deficient in stature he was not so in manliness. In pursuance of this design, therefore, on the occasion of a public combat between a lion and a bull, when the former animal had succeeded, after a terrible struggle, in pulling the bull to the ground, King Pepin, turning toward those who nobility who were present, shouted: "Which one of you will dare to enter the arena now and part the combatants or kill them?"

A dead silence and very perturbed looks were the only reply. "Then here is the man who will dare it!" shouted the little king, springing as he spoke into the arena. With drawn blade he rushed upon the lion and stabbed the fierce brute to the heart ere it could withdraw its fangs from the neck of the human which they were imbedded. Then with one mighty stroke the intrepid monarch almost severed the bull's head from its body. The whole vast audience sat silent and amazed at so unlooked-for an exhibition of courage, dexterity and strength combined. Turning toward his courtiers, the king merely said in a quiet tone, "You should have remembered that although David was little of stature, yet he laid low the giant who defied Israel."—London Society.

Rome and Health.
In a residence of nearly a dozen years in the aggregate and extending over a period of nearly 20 I have never had in my family a single serious illness or a case of typhoid or malaria, and in my personal acquaintance I have never known half a dozen cases of infectious or malarial fever and not one of any gravity, while in a residence of five years in Florence we had eight cases of typhoid among seven persons.

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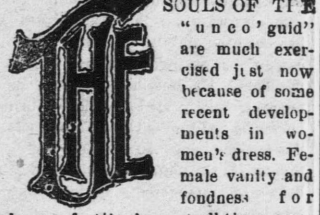
Real Entertainment.

Theaters are benefactors. They make the burden of life lighter.
"Yes, if somebody else pays for your reserved seat."—Detroit Free Press.

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Our Woman's Column

RATIONAL DRESS.
BY LADY COOK (nee TENNESSEE C. CLAFLIN.)



SOULS OF THE
"uncle's guide" are much exercised just now because of some recent developments in women's dress. Female vanity and fondness for change of attire have at all times sorely tried their pious spirits. It would almost seem that Providence has specially provided these crosses for the occupation of that numerous class "who've naught to do but mark and tell their neighbor's faults and folly." And so from remote time, changes of fashions, especially female fashions, have been the cause of many prayers and weepings, denounced from pulpits, and the but's of secular scoffs and ridicule.

Some years ago a handsome, accomplished, and well-dressed young lady—an intimate friend of ours—casually passing the open door of a rural Bethel about a mile or two from Penzance, ventured to enter. Her fashionable appearance in such a spot caused a general sensation. The "Local Preacher" halted in the midst of a few moments at the lovely vision. Then thrusting Satan behind him with one hand, his heart boiling with holy wrath, he extended the other, and pointing to the delicate veil which flowed over her luxuriant tresses, shouted in stentorian tones and with an air of apostolic fervor, "Take off that hell-rag!" If a mere veil could have produced such a rude outburst of dissenting zeal, what would he have said had she entered in cycling knickerbockers? Our young friend left the Chapel of this latter-day Bonapartes more rapidly than she entered it, and with the visible sympathy of the surprised congregation—for the Cornish are remarkable for their gentle and unobtrusive politeness. Nevertheless, his character as a severe and fearless denouncer of pomps and vanities was thoroughly established.

This reformer must have numerous relations in Chicago, for we understand that women are arrested there by the police if they appear in public in knickerbockers. And we have many who would welcome a similar course here. Some newspaper correspondents suggest by saying that if they were to go about in their wives' clothes they would be loved up. This is no doubt true. But then the ladies do not wear their husbands' clothes, but their own, made specially for themselves. There is no pre-eminence whatever to pose as males, and no one is deceived as to their sex. Therefore the whole question resolves itself into one of taste and convenience. If a woman feels that she can cycle with less danger and more ease without a skirt than with one, what moral right has any one to interfere so long as she preserves her sex distinction? How would men like to be compelled to run and ride in petticoats? Or why should women be denied the free play of their limbs, or even the admiration due to a well-turned pair? As Robert Burns wrote on "The Rights of Women":—"For Right the third, our best, our best, our best."

That right to fluttering female hearts the nearest, Which even the Rights of Kings in low position Most humbly own—"his dear, dear admiration!"
It is urged that it is an indecency for women to sit astride. We ask, Why? Until "Good Queen Anne" introduced the side-saddle, the women of England always rode horseback astride like the men, as the women of many countries do to the present day. Physiologically considered, perhaps it would be fitter, if a distinction must be made, for men to use side-saddles and women the others. It is nonsense to connect immorality with either mode, as it is simply a matter of custom, and when the novelty of seeking a woman astride has worn off, time will sanction both it and knickerbockers as it has sanctioned so many other things.

It is somewhat amusing, however, to hear women who appear at public functions in the most "decollate" manner—semi-nude, arms and shoulders, backs and breasts bare to all beholders—disparaging the most modest woman who only displays, to the extent of a few inches, the shape of a pair of well-covered legs. Ladies of position have long been accustomed to accompany their male friends to cover and moor shooting, habited in knickers and leggings, and little notice has been taken, but the adoption of similar garments by the cycling community is quite another thing, and requires police intervention.

Mankind have been trying all kinds of clothing, possibly to discover a rational dress, and have not found the suitable one yet. We may still say, as Chaucer in the "Parson's Tale," "Alas! May not a man see as in our dates, the sinneful costelwe array of clothing, and namely into moche superfetite, or elles into disordinate scantnesse?" Among the superfetities we find "the length of the foresaid gounes, trailing in dong and in the myre on hors and on foot, as well of man as of woman, that all thilke trailing is verily wasted, consumed, treadbare, and rotten with d. n. g. rather than it is given to the poure. To speke of the horrible dis-

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ordinate scantness of clothing. Alas! some of them shewen the hose and the shape of the horrible swollen members, that seem like to the mallede of Hernia, in the wrapping of the hose, and eke the buttockes of hem behinde, that faren as it were the hinder part of a she ape in the ful of them one." The disgusting fashion of short and tight breeches "which rather exposed the wearer's nakedness than hid it," was banished from France by an edict of Chas. V. The beaux of Elizabeth's reign, however, differed those of Chaucer's and Charles times. They stuffed their breeches with feathers, rags, and other light materials until they were swollen to a huge circumference, and at the same time the ladies wore large hooped farthingales, something like modern corinnoles, so that "two lovers aside could surely never take one another by the hand." In a print by Vertue, Lady Hunsden, a leader of fashion, shows Elizabeth's precession to Lord Hunsden's. Her "standing up wire ruff" rises above her head, her staves reach to her knees, and her farthingale encloses her "as in a capacious tub." Disraeli says:—"The amorous Sir Walter Raleigh must have found some of the Maids of Honour the most impregnable fortification his gallant spirit ever assailed: a 'coupe de main' was impossible." Old Stowe says of this reign, in that time he was held the greatest gallant that had the deepest ruff and longest rayer."

We have seen an old French print of Adam and Eve in elaborate Eastern costumes, robed, jewelled, and turbaned, although we are told our Biblical ancestors commenced with fig-leaves and did not advance beyond "coat of skins." The graceful and Greek-like dresses of Anglo-Saxon times continued to linger long after the Conqueror. The conquest of France by the English introduced French fashions, and these and other refinements continued to come to us at intervals from Italy and Holland also. The English dress of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries was the most varied, the most bizarre, and the most ridiculous. In the reign of Charles II. the Puritans kept a watchful and bilious eye upon every change of fashion. "When courtiers wore monstrous wigs, they cut their hair short; when they adopted hats with broad plumes, they clapped on round black caps, and screwed up their pale religious faces; and when shoe buckles were revived, they wore strings." So can-venerous is soured human nature.

We must not suppose that we have arrived at the "Ultima Thule" of dress yet. Possibly, judging from the trend of fashion, in course of time things will veer round and each sex adopt the costume of the other, the men wearing petticoats or kilts which would be far more becoming than the present scanty jackets and tight trousers; and the women wearing long coats or blouses, and breeches or Turkish trousers. A rational dress must be one which gives the largest freedom to the body, is healthiest, lightest, most comfortable, and best adapted to climate and season. For picturesque purposes, perhaps the modern native Greek dress surpasses all others. For purposes of coquetry,

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON CUBA. HE OPPOSES THE RECOGNITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF CUBA.

President McKinley's long expected message was sent to the Congress Monday. In it he reviews the long struggle in the Island of Cuba, the cruel and barbarous warfare waged, the sufferings, misery and starvation endured by the Cubans, the ruin and desolation wrought, and the losses sustained by American interests consequent to the long struggle. He refers to the failure of Spain to stop the rebellion after years of bloody warfare, and asks Congress to authorize and empower him to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the government of Spain and the people of Cuba, to secure the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, ensuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes.

The President opposes recognition at this time of the independence of the present insurgent government in Cuba, quoting from the message of President Jackson and President Grant to sustain his position. He refers to his previous messages to Congress, detailing his efforts to bring about a cessation of hostilities between the opposing forces through diplomatic channels, and of his failure to accomplish tangible results. Friendly intervention has been a failure, and the President asks for authority to use force, if necessary. On this point he says:

"The forcible intervention of the United States as a neutral to stop the war, according to the large dictates of humanity, and following many historical precedents where neighboring States have interfered to check the hopeless sacrifice of life by intestine conflicts beyond their borders, is justified on rational grounds. It involves, however, hostile constraint upon both the parties to the contest, as well to enforce a truce as to guide the eventual settlement."

"The grounds for such intervention may be briefly summarized as follows: First—In the cause of humanity and to put an end to the barbaric, bloodshed, starvation and horrible miseries now existing there, and which the parties to the conflict are entirely unable or unwilling to stop or mitigate. It is no answer to say this is all in another country, belonging to another nation, and is therefore, none of our business. It is especially our duty, for it is right at our door."

"Second—We owe it to our citizens in Cuba to afford them that protection and indemnity for life and property which no government there can or will afford, and to that end to terminate the conditions that deprive them of legal protection."

"Third—The right to intervene may be justified by the very serious injury to the commerce, trade and business of our people, and by the wanton destruction of property and devastation of the Island."

"Fourth—And which is of the most importance. The present condition of affairs in Cuba is a constant menace to our peace, and entails upon this government an enormous expense. With such a conflict waged for years in an island so near us and with which our people have such trade and business relations—when the lives and liberty of our citizens are in constant danger, and their property destroyed and themselves ruined—where our trading vessels are liable to seizure and are seized at our very door by warships of a foreign nation, the expenditures of filibustering that we are powerless altogether to prevent, and the irritating questions and entanglements that I need not mention, with the resulting strained relations, are a constant menace to our peace and compel us to keep on a semi-war footing with a nation with which we are at peace."

"These elements of danger and disorder already pointed out have been strikingly illustrated by a tragic event which has deeply and justly moved the American people. I have already transmitted to Congress the report of the Naval Court of Inquiry on the destruction of the battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana during the night of 15th of February. The destruction of that noble vessel has filled the national heart with inexpressible horror. Two hundred and fifty-eight brave soldiers and marines and two officers of our Navy, reposing in the fancied security of a friendly harbor, have been hurried to death, grief and want brought to their homes and sorrow to their nation."

"The Naval Court of Inquiry, which it is needless to say, commands the unqualified confidence of the Government, was unanimous in its conclusion that the destruction of the Maine was caused by an exterior explosion, that of a submarine mine. It does not assume to place the responsibility. That remains to be fixed."

"In any event the destruction of the Maine, by whatever exterior cause, is a patent and impressive proof of a state of things in Cuba that is intolerable. The conditions is thus shown to be such that the Spanish Government cannot assure safety and security to a vessel of the American Navy in the harbor of Havana on a mission of peace and rightfully there."

"Further referring in this connection to recent diplomatic correspondence, a dispatch from our Minister to Spain of the 26th ultimo contained the statement that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs assured him positively that Spain will do all that the highest honor and justice required in the matter of the Maine. The reply above re-

ferred to of the 31st ultimo also contained an expression of the readiness of Spain to submit to an arbitration all the differences which can arise in this matter, which is subsequently explained by the note of the Spanish Minister at Washington of the 10th instant as follows:

"As to the question of fact which springs from diversity of view between the report of the American and Spanish boards, Spain proposes that the fact be ascertained by an impartial investigation by experts whose decision Spain accepts in advance."

"To this I have made no reply. The long trial has proved that the object for which Spain has waged the war cannot be obtained. The fire of insurrection may flame or may smoulder with varying season, but it has not been and it is plain that it cannot be extinguished by present methods. The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which can no longer be endured is the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which give us the right and the duty to speak and to act, the war in Cuba must stop."

"In view of these facts and of these considerations, I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the Island the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, ensuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes."

"And in the interest of humanity and to aid in preserving the lives of the starving people of the island, I recommend that the distribution of food and supplies be continued and that an appropriation be made out of the public treasury to supplement the charity of our citizens."

"The issue is now with the Congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution and law, I await your action."

ANOTHER WEEK OF WAR TALK.

Another week has passed and war is yet in the future—except a war of words. In Congress some of the Representatives have indulged in hurling nasty words and huge booms at each other's heads. But the situation is critical. Gen. Lee left Havana amid the jeers of the populace and he charges that Spanish officials are responsible for the destruction of the Maine. The President's message went to Congress on Monday, a synopsis is elsewhere given, and the House promptly passed a resolution of intervention. The Senators are discussing a resolution to the same purpose and there is no doubt of its adoption. Some 20 or 30 Senators propose to speak upon the resolution and several days will probably be consumed in this way. Consul Gen. Lee is in full accord with the President's policy. Gen. Lee declined a public demonstration in his honor, but "having done only what any American would do in his position." Should war result Gen. Lee would deserve to hold an elevated commission in the army. Senator George Gray has honored himself and his State by his sensible advice and Delaware patriotism. The powers of Europe would prevent war but Spain's action is an uncertain quantity, and the Spanish cruelty which starved 400,000 helpless Cubans in less than a year provoke war if it could hope for foreign aid.

AS OTHERS SEE "IT."

Congressman Handy and State Senator Kenney, two free silver cronies of Delaware, talked war last week at the formal opening of the new clubrooms of the Democratic League, Wilmington. Mr. Handy made a fierce attack on the administration, and the Spanish as well, and as a climax used oaths to emphasize his feeling. "When I read the De Lome letter," he continued, "it made mad, because no foreign minister has a right to tell the truth about the American President." If Mr. Handy represented the Diamond State for morality or even common decency, she would be differently considered from what she is. Does it not seem strange that any party in this enlightened day should elect such a specimen of humanity to represent them in Congress? The better element of Delaware must hang their head in shame at the mention of Handy's name. And yet some Delawareans boast of their undivided democracy—American Union.

When you are suffering from Catarrh or Cold in the head you want relief right away. Only 10 cents is sufficient to test it. Ask your druggist for the trial size of Ely's Cream Balm, or buy the 50c size. We mail it.

ELY BROS., 56 Warren Street, N. Y. City.

I was afflicted with catarrh last autumn. During the month of October I could neither taste nor smell and could hear but little. Ely's Cream Balm cured it.—Marcus Geo. Shantz, Rahway, N. J.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The production of gold and silver in the United States last year west of the Mississippi river was of gold \$62,705,547; and of silver \$29,088,190; the silver being computed at 90 cents per ounce. With the exception of the year 1853, this is the largest production of gold ever had in this territory, and it very nearly approaches that of 1895, and is more than double that of the year 1893, while the production of silver is the smallest since 1872. With this extraordinary increase in the gold product the whole conditions which affect the coinage problem may undergo such a radical change that as a factor in politics it may take an entirely new aspect.

Unclaimed Letters.

A list of unclaimed letters remaining in the Middletown post-office which can be had by saying they are advertised. Steve Bricker, Matt Lloyd, Hattie Luff, August Phillips.

A MILITARY CALL.

Governor Tunnell through his Secretary of State has furnished the TRANSCRIPT with blank certificates for the enrollment of Volunteer Reserve. These are for the patriotic young men of this community. We give space to the call of the Governor and also of the certificate for the general information of our readers. They are as follows:

STATE OF DELAWARE,
Executive Department.

I am requested by the officers of the National Volunteer Reserve to assist in encouraging the enrollment of Volunteer Reserves in this State.

Such a force enrolled for service in case of emergency would be of the greatest benefit in strengthening our military, and not only putting us on a war basis, but insuring peace with other nations.

While it is sincerely to be hoped that there will be no serious interruption in the reign of peace which we have so long enjoyed, yet it is the surest guarantee of safety to provide for defense at this time.

It would be most gratifying and encouraging to the Federal Government if all good citizens, who are eligible for military service would enroll themselves as a reserve force upon whom the nation could rely in case of emergency.

The people of Delaware have always stood ready to respond to every call of duty in the nation's hour of need, and I feel that it is only necessary that their attention should be called to the present occasion in order to secure a ready response to this request.

I request that patriotic newspapers in the State give this call as wide a circulation as is possible and in every way assist in this most important cause.

Persons desiring to be enrolled in the National Volunteer Reserve can do so by filling out a certificate in the following form, and mailing it to "Headquarters National Volunteer Reserve, Washington Building New York City."

Certificates can be obtained from any newspaper office in the State.

EBE W. TUNNELL, Governor.

(Forward to Headquarters National Volunteer Reserve, Washington Building N. Y.)

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE.

STATE OF.....

CITY OF (TOWNS OF).....

I,....., born....., in the State of....., aged..... years, now residing at....., in the County of..... and State of....., with Post-Office address....., do hereby state and declare, that I am of proper age and believe myself to be physically and otherwise qualified to bear arms; that I am not enlisted in the National Guard or Naval Reserve of any State or in the Army or the Navy of the United States; and that I desire that my services shall be available to the United States in the event of war with any foreign power. I do, therefore, enlist in the "NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE" and ask that my name be enrolled as a member of said organization, and I do solemnly undertake and agree, in the event of war between the United States and any foreign power, to be called upon by the constituted authorities of the State of..... or of the United States through the lawful channels, to enlist as a "soldier in the National Guard or the Naval Reserve of said State or in the Army or the Navy of the United States for the length of time, and upon the terms that may by law be provided, and I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies whomsoever. Sworn to before me this..... day of....., 189.....

Signature of Volunteer in full.....

Address in full.....

I hereby certify that the above named man is between the age of 18 and 45, and that he is free from all bodily defects and mental infirmities which would in any way disqualify him from performing military duty.

Yes..... No.....

Veteran of the late war?.....

Rank.....

Name.....

Address in full.....

Name.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

Address in full.....

CAPTAIN SIGBEE'S HOME LIFE.

Just now says the Washington Post anything pertaining to Captain Sigbee is interesting. His home life in Blight place is an ideal one, and his charm is due to those who are nearest and dearest to the gallant officer, his family.

The Captain, as his name would indicate, comes of Dutch stock, and takes a reasonable pride in having sprung from what was at the time his people came to New Amsterdam, the greatest seafaring nation in the world. He was a country boy originally and came from the rural districts adjoining the village of Otego, in Otsego County, N. Y. While he was a mere lad his family moved to Albany, and it was from there he went to the Naval Academy. While at the academy he was not over nineteen, and has been very much amused at the accounts which have appeared in different papers of his graduating first in his class. His nickname while at the academy was "Dutch" and by that he was popularly known for a long time.

He graduated at the age of eighteen, and was immediately put in charge of a division of guns on a ship and entered active service. He spent powder during the late war in the battles of Mobile and Fort Fisher, and at the age of twenty-five was promoted to the position of Lieutenant-Commander.

It was in the same year that he met the Naval Academy Miss Ellen Rogers Lockwood, daughter of Professor Henry Lockwood U. S. N., who was then one of the instructors at the academy.

Mrs. Sumner Ely Westmore Kittelle, wife of Ensign Kittelle, now on duty with the dispatch boat Dolphin, is the oldest daughter of Captain and Mrs. Sigbee. She is the proud mother of the youngest son of the Sigbee race, a young lady of some two months of age, who is said to answer in the most intelligent manner to the name of Anna Louise Kittelle, and who is declared by her grandparents to be the most remarkable infant of modern times.

Miss Mary Ellen Sigbee, the second daughter, resembles her father in personal appearance and inherits from him a talent for art. She is a decided brunette and an enthusiastic member of the Art League of Washington.

Unlike her elder sister, Miss Ethel Sigbee, the third daughter, is a decided blonde, and in personal appearance goes back to her mother's side of the family. She is strikingly handsome, and has an excellent voice, which has been cultivated to a high degree of perfection. She has recently left school and will be one of next year's debutantes. She has histrionic talent of a high order.

Little Miss Eleanor, aged eleven, and Master Charles Dwight Sigbee, Jr., aged eight, comprise the quota of the Sigbee household, and will be remembered as having taken part in a number of the Maine benefits given some time ago in Washington.

To-Night and To-Morrow Night.

And each day and night during this week you can get at any druggist's a box of the Throat and Lung, acknowledged to be the most successful remedy ever sold for Coughs, Croup, Bronchitis, Asthma and Consumption. Get a bottle to-day and keep it always in the house, so you can check your cold at once. Price 25c. and 50c. Sample bottle free.

Do Your Feet Ache?

Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot Ease a powder. It cures Corns, Bunions, Chilblains, Sweating, Swollen Feet. At all druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

WANAMAKER'S

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, April 11, 1898.

Five Million Dollars' The store was never so good.

And never has it been so appreciated. We've closed the books on the greatest March business ever done.

That is fullest endorsement and best promise. Business does not come by chance.

Black Dress Goods. Little wonder that Black Dress Goods are more wanted this season than they have been heretofore. The loom wizards have brought out designs so exquisite, and fabrics so filmy and elegant, that the dignity and dressiness of plain black is more beautiful than ever before. Suitable, too, on all occasions, and serviceable. In every weave, variety is greater than we've ever shown before.

Cheviots, 50c to \$2.50—

The quality of wool, the weight, the dye, the finish, are examined with care before these cheviots come to us. Ninety kinds are here to choose from.

Serges, 28c to \$1.75—

The always wanted weave for knock-about wear; in the various twills; some hard, some soft finish; more than fifty kinds on show.

Mohairs, 28c to \$1.50—

In plain weaves, and all sorts of figured effects—solid, striped, and exceptionally serviceable. A hundred and fifty kinds.

Grenadines, 50c to \$5—

Here the artists of the loom give their masterpieces, all silk and silk and wool grenadines; some have gauge grounds and dainty designs; some are the plain "iron frame" weaves; some in dainty embroidery effects—straw plaids, creps and crepons—two hundred and seventy-five styles in all.

PLAIN DRESS GOODS—

And yet some wonderfully pretty fabrics from both sides of the water are among the so-called "plain" goods. Solid colors and mixtures; all wool and silk-and-wool. This hint of price ranges—

Covert Cloths, 30c to \$2.25

Poppins, 75c to \$1.75

Vigoureaux, 65c to \$1.50

Granite, 75c to \$1.50

Drop Effects, 90c to \$1.25

Whipcords, \$1.00 to \$1.75

Serges, 37½c to \$1.75

Broadcloths, 75c to \$3.00

WANAMAKER'S

And Priestley Waterproof Serges in navy blue, bright, crisp, long-fibre wool; finished with the Cravenette process that makes them water-proof for the April showers, 75c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75 a yard.

Lillian THE top-notch of graceful beauty of form is moulded into the various "Lillian" models. They are made by the skilled hands of Europe's best corset maker. Made in models, to suit all figures; prices range from \$1 to \$7.00. The two most popular sorts are hard to keep in full supply. Plenty are here now. This word of them—

At \$1—Lillian corsets of light weight coutil, saten strips, corded bust, lace trimmed; extra long waist.

At \$1.25—Lillian corsets, coutil, medium length; trimmed with lace and ribbon.

Gloves YEARS of careful searching for and testing of all best gloves have sent us to Grenoble, France, for gloves worthy of the confidence of Philadelphia women—gloves that we guarantee absolutely for their goodness—their beauty of color, fit and finish with admiration quite as seen. At their various prices, we know of no equals. All of real kidskin, of course. We hint of three.

The "Dauphine"—extra quality kid and suede gloves; embroidered; all colors, black and white, \$1.75.

The "Burmott"—kid, embroidered, all colors, black and white, \$1.50.

The Princess May, kid, embroidered, all colors, black and white, \$1.

Housekeeping

REPLENISHING time is here for many housekeeping needs—especially is this the season for new supplies of linens. So, rare good news for housekeepers is this telling of unusual values in linens for all sorts of needs. This word of them—

TABLE LINENS—

AT 50c A YARD—Eight hundred and seventy-four yards of fine party-bleached Damask; 64 inches wide. If bleached it would equal many of the dollar sorts.

AT 75c A YARD—Extra heavy party-bleached German Damask that scarcely has an equal at a dollar. 2 yards wide. Just eight hundred and thirty-one yards of it.

AT 90c A YARD—Fine fully-bleached Irish Damask, in a range of pretty patterns; 70 inches wide. Barely five hundred yards in the lot.

NAPKINS—

AT \$1.00 A DOZEN—Extra heavy German Napkins, grass-bleached, and with long service in them. Dinner size, 23 inches square. Just three thousand of them.

AT \$2.75 A DOZEN—Fine handsome snow-white Dinner Napkins of Irish make; 26 inches square. Twenty-four hundred of these.

AT \$5.50 A DOZEN—Extra fine bleached satin Damask Napkins, of Flemish make, and the patterns are gems of beauty; 20 inches square. Six hundred of these.

TOWELS—

AT 12½c EACH—Bleached double Huck Towels; ready hemmed and washed; 17½x35 inches. Fifteen hundred of them.

AT 15c EACH—Good large bleached Scotch Huck Towels; ready hemmed; 20x28 in.

AT 25c EACH—Very fine all-white fringed Towels, with damask borders. Large size. They would be fairly priced at 40c. Just twelve hundred of them.

AT 50c—Handsome plain white Damask Towels, with two rows of open-work and hemstitched ends; 22x50 inches.

John Wanamaker.

Housekeeping Sundries DEPARTMENT.

A WHOLE ROOM FULL OF LITTLE PRICES.

Graystone Enamel Pudding Pans, 2 qt. 10c; 4-qt. 12c; 6-qt. 15c.

Graystone Enamel Dish Pans, 12-qt. 33c; 14-qt. 40c. Graystone Enamel Coffee Pots with relined covers and hollow enameled Iron handles, 1-qt. 19c; 2 and 3-qt. 25c; 3-qt. 30c.

Extension Brass Curtain Rods, will fit any window, 10 to 38-inches, all complete 10c instead of 25c. Fry Pans, stamped one piece solid steel, highly polished, tin covered handles, 9, 10, 10½ inches 15c; 11-in. 16 cents.

Willow Clothes Baskets, 49c. No. 7 Wash Boilers, 39 cents.

Mrs. Potts' Sad Iron Handles, 8c. Mrs. Potts' Sad Irons, nickel plated, 3 irons, handle and stand, 73 cents.

Sixty feet Clothes Wire, 8c; one hundred feet Clothes wire, 19c. Can Openers, 3c. Stove Lifters, 2c. Large Vegetable Graters, 3c. Egg Whips, 2c. Dust Pans, 8c. Nickel Stair Buttons, 20c doz. Wade & Butcher Razors, 38c. 2-qt. Best Hot Water Bottles, 49c. Clothes Wringers, pure white rollers, \$1.24. Large Wire Broilers, 10c; Nutmeg Graters, 2c. Wooden Spoons, large size, 3c. Wire Vegetable Dippers, 5c. Gold Paint, 8c box. McCormick Iron Glue, 5c. Silver Polish, 8c. Upholsters' Brass Nails, 5c box of 100. Chair Seats, maple, three layers of wood, 5c. Sewing Machine Oil, 4 oz. bottle, 3 cents.

Window Blinds, felt, complete with spring rollers, 10c.

Window Blinds, oil cloth, plain and fancy, complete with spring rollers, 25 cents.

Good Whisk Brooms, 8c. Lunch Boxes, 10c. Toilet Paper, 50 sheets, 5 cents.

Tea Spoons, set of 6 spoons, 6 cents. Carpet Tacks, 250 tacks in paper, 2 cents. Matting Tacks, 2 cents.

Nickel Alarm Clocks, best make, 85 cents. Empire Chalk, 7c gross. Large Wood Rim Flour Sieves, 10 cents.

Horse, Clippers, every pair fully warranted, \$1.19. Large Rolling Pins, 5c. Clothes Pins, 1c doz. Best Lamp Burners, 5c. Muffin Rings, 1 cent. Cake Cutters, 4c. Pepper Boxes, 2 cents.

Dish Washers, 5c. Stove Pokers, 5 cents. Razor Homes, 10c. Bed Castors, 8c set. Hat Checks, 15c and 25 cents.

Plow Traces, 10c and 12c pair. Plow Lines, 8c pair, 14 yard.

Butter Paddles, 4 cents.

Roasting Pans, heavy sheet iron, 7c, 8c and 10c and 12c. Lanterns, best make, 40c. Lantern Globes, 5 cents.

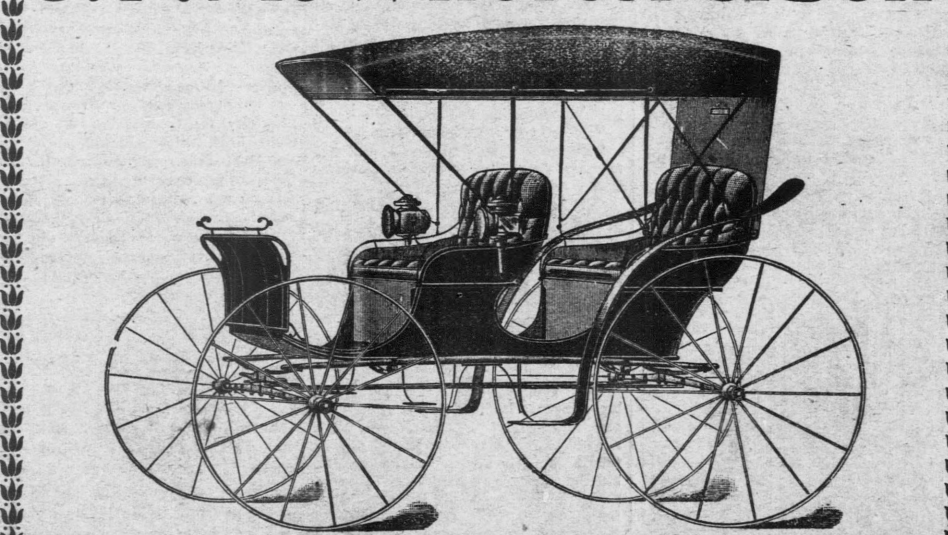
Brass Curtain Chains, 8c pair. Brass Curtain Hooks, 4c doz. Large Nickel Scissors, 7c pair. Clothing Drying Racks, large size, 49 cents.

Cake Boards, 25c. Ironing Boards, large size, 40c. Wash Boards, zinc, 10c. Good Brooms, 10c. Hemp Carpet, 15c yard.

Extra Heavy Rag Carpet, 25c yard.

J. B. MESSICK.

J. F. McWhorter & Son



CARRIAGES. CARRIAGES.

We have now in stock the largest and best assortment of Carriages of all descriptions to be found in the State, including the celebrated "Cortland," (the best on earth,) and are in a position to meet all competition.

Buy the MILBURN FARM WAGON, as it is guaranteed to be the Best.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Our experience covering a period of 18 years in this line has placed us in a position to secure all the leading makes of implements, including the following favorites: Deering Binders, Deering Mowers, Iron Age Riding Cultivators, Farmers' Friend and Hamilton Corn Planters, Imperial Plows, Patton & Stafford Horse Rake, Bickford & Huffman Grain Drills, VanWinkle Grain Fans, Superior Land Rollers, Continental Disc Harrows, Imperial Steel Drag Harrows, and all other up-to-date Implements to be used on the farm.

We handle the PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE, which has no equal, because, it requires few posts. It does not burn or blow down. It is entirely adapted to rough ground. You can get and erect it on very short notice. It is made from the very best hard steel wire. It turns everything from a rabbit to a steam engine. Those who have used it recommend it. You can put it up faster than any other fence. When you get it you have what you want.

Get in the front ranks and try an AMERICAN MILK SEPARATOR, and if it don't save you money bring it back. You will always find a sample on hand for inspection.

Bind your Dollar Wheat with the DEERING BINDER TWINE, and oil your binder with the Deering Lubricating Oil.

We are now having made to our order a large lot of HAY RIGGINGS, which we can sell you right. We are always glad to show our goods whether you are ready to buy or not, so call and see us.

Yours respectfully,

J. F. McWhorter & Son., Machinery Hall, Middletown, Del.

The Transcript, \$1.00.

Star Trading Stamps.
Green Trading Stamps.
B. & L. Checks.

What a rushing time we had Saturday. How the people must like our clothing. They carried it away by armloads on Saturday. It's the best in the city—best for the money.

The raid made on that great range of \$8.50 Men's Suits—the dozens sold on Saturday replaced this morning—two for every one sold. They're the equal of any \$10 and a great many \$12 Suits of other stores.

\$8.50 for Basket Worsteds, Fine Cassimeres, Cheviots, in new plaids and checks, and they're elegantly made, too.

Men's Suits, \$5 to \$20. The lowest priced are all wool, made as they ought to be.

We give trading stamps, red or green, or B. & L. checks. Ask for them.

All goods marked in plain figures. Strictly

Local News.

—Consult Walter Monro's card if looking for house decorations.

—Pasture lots and small houses for rent, also for sale. Mrs. F. E. Coker.

—No woman who thinks she is homely will consent to have her picture taken in a group.

—For SALE—Chestnut posts and rails. Apply to George Buckwith, St. Augustine, Md.

—Arthur McClockey, Jr., has assumed charge of the Buck Hotel, at Summit Bridge.

—Every body uses Bragdon's Poultry Remedy, it cures 25 cents.

—A woman is clever when she makes a man think he knows a great deal more than she does.

—Remember that J. F. McWhorter & Son have a full line of carriage and agricultural implements on hand.

—No need to call attention to McWhorter's big and tall week—its size and contents do that.

—For RENT—One Dwelling on Main street and two in the rear.

—Miss FANNIE SHEPHERD.

—W. S. Letherbury's hardware store has taken on the fashionable city colors, green and aluminum.

—For SALE—150,000 two year old Palmetto and Spanish crows. R. Lockwood, Georgetown, Md.

—Don't try to get rich without working. It is either risky or dangerous, and sometimes it is both.

—It's folly, to lose your poultry when the use of Bragdon's Poultry Remedy is guaranteed to you for 25 cents.

—"Lessons from great missionaries" is the Endeavor topic for to-morrow evening, April 13th chapter.

—"We call the attention of farmers who wish to contract for pickles to the advertisement of the Philadelphia Pickling Company in another column."

—W. A. Watson was appointed on Monday postmaster at Blackbird, New Castle county, vice B. E. Ferguson, removed.

—See our Cook Stoves and Ranges, no medium size, large or small. All at surprising low prices, and yet ten per cent off for cash. MIDDLETOWN HARDWARE HOUSE.

—Subject for the Epworth League to-morrow evening is "Keeping the power of God" to be led by Mr. William B. Kates.

—Don't fall to visit the opening of fine trimmed and untrimmed millinery at Mrs. M. C. Barnett's, corner West Main and Cass streets, Saturday, April 24, 1898. All are welcome.

—L. A. Zebby, Past Great Sachem, of the Improved Order of Red Men, who died in Wilmington Friday, was buried Sunday.

—Officers for next year—Private officers in the property recently vacated by S. M. Reynolds. Apply to Wm. E. Reynolds.

—Harrison Vandegrift was appointed postmaster at Odessa, New Castle Co., Del., on Friday last, vice L. R. Davis, deceased.

—For SALE—The Parker House on Cochran street; two nice residences on Cass street; one fine property on North Broad street; two nice ones on South Broad street; also several farms near town. Apply to GEORGE W. INGRAM.

—Judging from the business Trunkler is doing at his studio, he is surely pleasing patrons. Developing and printing for amateurs a specialty.

—PROFESSIONAL CARD.—Dr. W. E. Barnard Surgeon Dentist, office same location, opposite the post office. All operations performed to dentistry guaranteed. Odontometer and Gas for painless extracting.

—Many a man who rejects the story of Jonah and the whale swallows a newspaper without question, then swears to its accuracy days, these days.

—Have just received two carloads fertilizers and fertilizer materials for early and all spring crops, now stored in warehouse for quick delivery. Send in your orders. J. M. SHEPHERD, JR. S. M. REYNOLDS, AGT.

—If you want a new hat for your little girl, or for yourself, call on Mr. A. M. McKee, who has just received new goods this week, she can please you in any style.

—For SALE—A fine farm of 74 acres, 15 acres woodland, nice dwelling, good granary and stables, orchard and vineyard, not far from water and rail facilities. Terms easy at private sale. Inquire at TRANSCRIPT office.

—J. Frank Brinkerhoff of Philadelphia, Specialist in Lesions for the Eye, will again be in Middletown at Mrs. Massey's jewelry store on Tuesday April 19. No charge to examine your eyes to determine if you will be benefited by wearing glasses.

—Forks, Shovels, Spades, Axes, Rope Traces, Chain Traces, Hames, Curry Combs, Horse Brushes, Farm Bells, Grindstones and all other kinds of Hardware, Tin Ware and Wooden Ware suited to the season at "way down prices," at MIDDLETOWN HARDWARE HOUSE.

—The Legislature need complain no longer of having nothing to do, when there are three bills in hand which require careful and intelligent consideration. They are the school bill, the registration act and the general corporation law.

—If the TRANSCRIPT fails to reach you, notify the office promptly by postal card. It only costs a cent and will guarantee the delivery of the paper regularly. Address, The TRANSCRIPT, Middletown, Delaware.

—As the TRANSCRIPT goes to press the young people are gathering at the Opera House to enjoy the Easter dance given by the Young Men's Social Club. Ogleby's Orchestra furnishes the music; and as it is always the case a royal good time will be had.

—Seek not please the world, but your own conscience. The man who has a feeling that he has done his duty upon every occasion is happier than he who hangs upon the smiles of the multitude or still more flimsy favors of the mob.

—A Woman Suffrage Conference will be held in the New Century Club room, in Wilmington, April 22 and 23. The afternoon session will be addressed by prominent citizens of the State, and the evening session by the Rev. Anna Shaw and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt.

—Easter was generally observed by the people last Sunday. The four church bells rang out a glad welcome and the floral decorations were everywhere in fragrance, beauty and abundance. The decorators at the M. E. Church outside their usual ample provision and the pulpit and preacher were almost hidden by the Easter lilies, etc.

—Hon. John A. Nicholson, father of Chancellor Nicholson, one of the oldest wheelmen in the State, met with quite a serious accident while riding his bicycle in Dover last Saturday morning. In passing between several teams he became confused and fell under one. He was taken to his home and it was found that his ankle was fractured.

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—The Pool Players—Messrs. Clarence, Howard A. and Frank R. Poole, near Mc Donough, are moving their last year's crop of wheat this week, having sold at 95 cents. The heavy rains of last summer caught part of their crops in the shock and it was October before they finished threshing. They have together over 7500 bushels to deliver which amounts to over seven thousand dollars.

—The United States Government has awarded to the E. I. DuPont de Nemours Company, of near Wilmington, the contract for furnishing \$15,000,000 worth of powder, and the mills are working at their greatest capacity to turn it out. The company is building a new mill in the lower yard and is also having a new machine manufactured to make prismatic powder, which will be the largest in the world. The company has also increased the wages of its employees in consideration of their faithful services.

—A Pennsylvania exchange says: A lady asked if etiquette required one to knock at the door of an editor's sanctum? If you are coming to pay your subscription or bring in a nice juicy item of news, don't stop to knock, but walk right in as if you owned the place. If on the other hand, you are on a collating or begging tour, you should make the fact known through the window, and then knock at the door until the editor opens it. If he does not open it in an hour call again.

—According to an official estimate made to the Treasury Department, the present population of the United States slightly exceeds 77,000,000. This indicates an annual increase of more than 2,000,000 since the last Federal census was taken in 1890, when the total population of the country was found to be more than 62,000,000. We are now within two years of another Federal census, at which it is reasonable to estimate that the total population of the United States will exceed 80,000,000.

—The ladies of the W. C. T. U. were very well pleased at the result of the illustrated lectures given by Miss Stewart under their auspices on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Miss Stewart is a pleasant talker and the views presented were choice and well described. The receipts might have been larger but the balance was on the right side of the account and the ladies feel encouraged. Unfortunately the bad boy was in evidence. Some of the ladies had to sit up with him and his peanuts. He and the nuts are a nuisance and should be shut out of the hall.

—The Y. M. C. A. are contemplating one of two entertainments to meet their indebtedness. The White Rose Minstrels, of Smyrna, a local company, most highly spoken of, offer a benefit, and Prof. S. T. Ford, the well-known dramatic troupe, are offering an engagement for Friday evening, April 22nd. Chaplain McCabe says of Prof. Ford's entertainments: "I have heard Prof. Ford in his readings and impersonations. Every time I hear him he makes me feel a year younger. He makes me laugh and cry, that is the way he goes. I expect to hear him every opportunity I have to do so and if I can hear him forty-one times more, I may fill out my century and celebrate my one hundredth birthday."

—The Fifteenth Milestone.

—Along life's pleasant pathway one of Middletown's successful business men on Thursday, April 14th, reached his fifteenth milestone. Perhaps but for the good wife and thoughtful daughter the event might have passed without observance, but the occasions for half century celebrations are not an every day occurrence and are not to be slighted, hence Mr. J. Frank McWhorter found everything at its commodious and convenient home on North Broad Street on his return from the office this evening, especially in the kitchen, while friends were gathering with hearty congratulations. With that characteristic geniality which has been an undoubted factor in making the social and business success of the fifty rounded cycles, the host of youthful acquaintances welcomed his friends most cordially. Soon the hostess announced supper and around the bountiful boards were seated the following:

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank McWhorter, Mr. Purnell L. McWhorter, Miss Viola McWhorter, Master Thomas McWhorter, Miss Viola Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. W. Naudin, Rev. and Mrs. I. L. Wood, Miss Eugenia Beaman, Miss Allie McKee, Miss Lena Pleasant, Mr. G. D. Kelley, Mr. W. G. Lockwood, Mr. McKendree Downham and Master John Taylor.

Ample compliment was paid the good things of the table by the lingering of the guests at the hospitable board, after which social converse was enjoyed in the parlor and music and games in the library. Especially did the guests appreciate the reminiscences and samples of the good music by the hostess. "In those happy courting days" when "Frank" saw that the latest and choicest music was provided. As was the celebration of a half century the guests retired at a seasonable hour with sincere wishes for many years of happiness and usefulness.

—A Sensible Man.</